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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/723,456 Confirmation No.: 5958  
Applicant : Paul R. Sharps, *et al.*  
Filed : November 26, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 1753  
Examiner : Diamond, Alan D.  
  
Docket No. : 1002 (previously 1613370-0026 CON)  
Customer No. : 007470

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Response to July 1, 2004 Office Action**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on July 1, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper;

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 4 of this paper;

**Amendments to the Drawing Figures** are described on page 12 of this paper; and

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 13 of this paper.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

**FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 1, 2004.

Melissa McCool  
Name

[Signature]  
Signature

OCTOBER 1, 2004  
Date

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01 FC:1201 264.00 DA  
02 FC:1202 360.00 DA